

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00261 071231Z

51

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 AEC-11 COME-00

INT-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 SCI-06 FEA-02 OIC-04

IO-14 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 STR-08 CEA-02 DRC-01 /215 W

----- 090783

R 071042Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7687

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0261

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, SU, SA

SUBJ: ENERGY: FONMIN DISCUSSES GOS OIL NEEDS; FEB 11,

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE; SAUDI OIL FOR SUDAN

1. FOLLOWING CONCLUSION SSU CONGRESS AND SUDANESE AMBASSADORIAL MEETING, WHICH HAVE PREOCCUPIED FONMIN MANSOUR KHALID FOR LAST TWO WEEKS, I CALLED ON HIM FEB 6 TO DISCUSS NUMBE MATTERS, INCLUDING OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCES.

2. DRAWING ON STATE 015406, I EXPLAINED TO KHALID OUR BELIEF THAT WASHINGTON MEETING MOST LOGICAL AND ORDERLY WAY TO BEGIN WORLD-WIDE ENERGY CONSULTATIONS. KHALID INDICATED HE HAD HEARD OF FRENCH PROPOSAL AND WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE UNDER UN ECOSOC AUSPICES. I SAID WE FELT RESULTS FEB 11 CONFERENCE AND SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS SHOULD BE AWAITED BEFORE FINAL DECISION ON LATTER AND STRESSED TO FONMIN THAT VIEWS OF NON-PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN THOSEMEETINGS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. KHALID COMMENTED SOMEWHAT DISPARAGINGLY THAT WASHINGTON
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PAGE 02 KHARTO 00261 071231Z

MEETING SEEMED GATHERING OF "RICH COUNTRIES". HE SAID

THAT, AS HEAD SPECIAL SEVEN-MEMBER OAU OIL COMMITTEE, HE HOPED POLITICIZATION WORLD ENERGY ISSUE COULD BE AVOIDED. OTHERWISE THERE WAS RISK EVENTUAL CONFRONTATION, AND HE CLAIMED WORLD MEDIA ALREADY GIVING THIS IMPRESSION. IN RESPONSE, I STRESSED TO KHALID THAT FEB 11 MEETING IN NO SENSE CONCEIVED BY US AS DIRECTED AGAINST ANYONE. IT WAS SIMPLY NECESSARY TO START ATTACKING PROBLEM SOMEWHERE AND, AS WORLD'S MAJOR ENERGY CONSUMER, WE HAD OBVIOUSLY THOUGHT IT APPROPRIATE CONVENE FELLOW CONSUMERS AT INITIAL STAGE. WE HAD KEPT MAJOR PRODUCERS FULLY INFORMED. I THEN HANDED KHALID COPIES PRESIDENT'S LETTER OF INVITATION TO CONSUMING COUNTRIES AND LETTERS TO OPEC PRODUCERS. (COPIES WERE PROVIDED FONMIN LAST MONTH BUT MAY NOT HAVE REACHED KHALID VIEW HIS OTHER PREOCCUPATIONS.) KHALID THEN SAID THAT HE HAD NO A PRIORI VIEW REGARDING WASHINGTON MEETING AND HOPED IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FIRST STEP IN RESOLVING WORLD ENERGY PROBLEM.

3. I THEN ASKED WHETHER FONMIN COULD CONFIRM PRESS REPORTS THAT SAUDI ARABIA PREPARED PROVIDE SUDANESE CRUDE REQUIREMENTS. KHALID RESPONDED SAUDI/SUDANESE OIL ACCORD IMMINENT. SAG HAD NOT ONLY AGREED PROVIDE CRUDE NEEDS EXPORT REFINERY TO BE CONSTRUCTED PORT SUDAN BUT ALSO WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE MOST, IF NOT ALL, SUDAN'S CURRENT PETROLEUM NEEDS (WHICH WE ESTIMATE AT SOME 1.1 MILLION TONS ANNUALLY). HE INDICATED DELIVERIES WOULD BE AT WORLD PRICES.

4. COMMENT: VIEW KHALID'S ROLE IN SPECIAL OAU OIL COMMITTEE, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR EMBASSY TO PROVIDE RUNDOWN ON WASHINGTON MEETING SOONEST THEREAFTER WHICH COULD BE PASSED TO FONMIN.
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